

## REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above-referenced application in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-6 and 9-22 are pending in this application.

Claims 1-6, 9, 11, 12, and 18-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Murakami (U.S. Patent No. 5,874,780). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. Claim 1 includes the feature of "a conductive bump on said contact pad, said bump comprising a coaxially-aligned stack of bodies having different cross-sectional dimensions." Murakami does not teach a stack of bodies. It is clear from Murakami's Figures 5A and 5B and the accompanying description in col. 5, lines 12-45 that bump 107 is a single body and therefore cannot be a stack of bodies. Therefore, Applicant submits that Claim 1 and Claims 2-6, 9, 11, and 12 depending therefrom are patentable over Murakami.

Claim 18 includes the features of "a first bump on said contact pad; a smaller second bump on said first bump, said second bump coaxially aligned with said first bump and having a substantially flat peak plane." As indicated above, Murakami does not teach more than one bump and therefore cannot teach a second bump coaxially aligned with a first bump. Therefore, Applicant submits that Claim 18 and Claims 19-22 depending therefrom are patentable over Murakami.

Claims 1, 3-6, 9, 11, 12, and 18-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kanda, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,153,938). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. Claim 1 includes the feature of "a conductive bump on said contact pad, said bump comprising a coaxially-aligned stack of bodies having different cross-sectional dimensions." Kanda does not teach a stack of bodies. It is clear from Kanda's Figure 3 and the accompanying

description in col. 6, lines 1-13 that bump 2 and nipple 40 are a single body and therefore cannot be a stack of bodies. Therefore, Applicant submits that Claim 1 and Claims 2-6, 9, 11, and 12 depending therefrom are patentable over Kanda.

Claim 18 includes the features of "a first bump on said contact pad; a smaller second bump on said first bump, said second bump coaxially aligned with said first bump and having a substantially flat peak plane." As indicated above, Kanda does not teach more than one bump and therefore cannot teach a second bump coaxially aligned with a first bump. Therefore, Applicant submits that Claim 18 and Claims 19-22 depending therefrom are patentable over Kanda.

Regarding the Kanda and Murakami references, Applicant refers the Examiner to the "Background of the Invention" section of the instant specification, where the disadvantages of the type of bump taught by Kanda and Murakami are discussed.

Claims 10, 12, and 13-17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kanda in view of Lin (U.S. Patent No. 6,426,556). Claims 10 and 12 depend from Claim 1. As indicated above, Kanda fails to teach or suggest all of the features of Claim 1. Lin, cited for its alleged teaching of a barrier layer and an insulating layer, fails to cure the deficiency of Kanda with regard to the coaxially-aligned stack of bodies described in Claim 1. Therefore, Applicant submits that Claim 1, as well as Claims 10 and 12 which depend therefrom, are patentable over the combination of Kanda and Lin.

Claim 13 includes the feature of a "first bump on said barrier layer having a first cross-sectional dimension; a second bump on and coaxially aligned with said first bump." Neither Kanda nor Lin teach or suggest such first and second bumps. Therefore, the combination of these references is deficient in teaching or suggesting all of the features of the claimed invention. Claims 14-17 depend from Claim 13. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 13-17 are patentable over Kanda in view of Lin.

Claims 10, 12, and 13-17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Murakami in view of Lin. Claims 10 and 12 depend from Claim 1. As indicated above, Murakami fails to teach or suggest all of the features of Claim 1. Lin, cited for its alleged teaching of a barrier layer and an insulating layer, fails to cure the deficiency of Murakami with regard to the coaxially-aligned stack of bodies described in Claim 1. Therefore, Applicant submits that Claim 1, as well as Claims 10 and 12 which depend therefrom, are patentable over the combination of Murakami and Lin.

Claim 13 includes the feature of a "first bump on said barrier layer having a first cross-sectional dimension; a second bump on and coaxially aligned with said first bump." Neither Murakami nor Lin teach or suggest such first and second bumps. Therefore, the combination of these references is deficient in teaching or suggesting all of the features of the claimed invention. Claims 14-17 depend from Claim 13. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 13-17 are patentable over Murakami in view of Lin.

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully requests the entry of this amendment, the withdrawal of the Examiner's rejections, and allowance of Claims 1-6 and 9-22. If the Examiner has any questions or other correspondence regarding this application, Applicant requests that the Examiner contact Applicant's attorney at the below listed telephone number and address.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael K. Skrehot  
Reg. No. 36,682

Texas Instruments Incorporated  
P.O. Box 655474, M/S 3999  
Dallas, TX 75265  
Phone: 972 917-5653  
Fax: 972 917-4418